

Bianca, Pam

2/26

**From:** Sen. Osten, Catherine  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 01, 2015 3:40 PM  
**To:** Bumpen, Robin  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support for SB 00439

Cathy Osten

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[paul.k@snet.net](mailto:paul.k@snet.net)>  
**Date:** March 1, 2015 at 1:37:50 PM EST  
**To:** <[osten@senatedems.ct.gov](mailto:osten@senatedems.ct.gov)>  
**Subject:** Support for SB 00439  
**Reply-To:** <[paul.k@snet.net](mailto:paul.k@snet.net)>

First: Paul  
Last: Krisavage  
Street: 11 Stonefield Drive  
Town: Prospect  
State: CT  
Zip: 06712  
Phone Number:  
Email: [paul.k@snet.net](mailto:paul.k@snet.net)  
Subject: Support for SB 00439  
Message:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill #439. This bill identifies two key positions within DEEP that manage critical and vital programs for the State.

My name is Paul Krisavage. I am a retired Connecticut State Police Captain, having been privileged to serve the State of Connecticut for over 35 years. Among my many assignments, I have served as a liaison with the Department of Transportation, commanded the Traffic Services Unit and worked on many transportation projects and initiatives. I was recently offered the opportunity to again work with the Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration as a project manager for the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Training program. In this capacity I have been privileged to work with several State Agencies and their representatives, many who I have worked with before. TIM Training is designed to train first responders, Fire, Law Enforcement, EMS, DOT, DEEP, Towing and recovery, etc, in a combined setting emphasizing teamwork to reduce highway incident clearance times. Reducing the time it takes to clear accidents reduces the exposure to first responders and the motoring public, thereby increasing safety. If adapted by first responder agencies it will have an immediate impact and benefit to our transportation users.

Among the agencies I have been working with is the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, (DEEP). DEEP's Emergency Response and Spill Prevention Unit are critical to

clearing our highways in a timely manner. Their ability to respond with highly trained personnel is essential to the incident management team. I have worked with Mark DeCaprio, Director of the Emergency Response and Spill Prevention Unit, for many years prior to our recent work effort. I appreciate his guidance and advice on the projects we have undertaken, currently and in the past. Mr. DeCaprio recently informed me of this issue which SB #439 seeks to address.

I worked with Mr. DeCaprio when he was one of the responders he now manages. These responders are classified as Hazardous Duty due to the nature and responsibilities they manage. Mr. DeCaprio is one of the most highly trained and skilled technicians I have worked with. I understood his frustration when selected for his position after his many years as the primary responder. In the long run he decided that as a manager he would be able to ensure that DEEP could field well-trained and skilled personnel to handle any situation. I also know that he continued to respond to many situations.

As a Commanding Officer one of the most important and rewarding tasks was in training my personnel so they could be ready for promotions, ready to step to the next level as well as other assignments. Succession planning among agencies is all too often over-looked and unfortunately is costly to correct.

In your capacities I understand the need to weigh the costs of programs versus benefits. Our budget is stretched to the limit. I too had to justify the various programs I managed for the review of the legislature. I weighed this as I reviewed SB #439 and I would offer you this.

In my current capacity I am attempting to establish an essential training program that would have, not only an immediate effect on the motoring public, but also a lasting effect. For this effort to succeed it is critical that we continue to train first responders and ensure that this valuable knowledge is passed down. I believe SB #439 is important for DEEP so that the supervisory and management positions are filled with personnel who have managed field incidents and will be able to provide this working knowledge and training to new personnel.

I know Mr. DeCaprio and believe that he supports this change to fulfill his obligation to the State in continuing to field highly trained and skilled personnel to all the Towns and Cities. I would ask you to support this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Captain Paul Krisavage, CSP (Ret)

Reply: NoReply